Implementation of multi-purpose National Identity Card by BEL

2426. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Multi-purpose National Identity Card (MNIC) pilot project was handed over to Bharat Electronics Limited;

(b) if so, when will the project be completed; and

(c) what is the project cost and the terms and conditions for the execution of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) For the purpose of implementing the Pilot Project on Multi-purpose National Identity Card (MNIC) scheme, the Bharat Electronics Limited has been engaged by the Government as a System Integrator for few operations at an estimated cost of Rs. 6.28 crores which, *inter-alia*, includes the following:

(i) Creation of Population Register database in electronic format including data entry, transliteration in local language, data verification, validation, capture of photographs and finger biometrics of persons above 15 years, integration of these data etc.

(ii) Providing professional service support for updating and modification in the Population Register for one year after operationalization of the MNIC centres including data entry of births and deaths, addition to the database for new entrants, integration etc.

(iii) Providing professional service support for maintenance of MNIC centres for one year in respect of computer equipment, software, generation of various reports etc.

(iv) Software development for above mentioned activities.

The estimated cost for implementation of Pilot Project is Rs. 30.00 crores and it is expected to be completed by March, 2006.

Reforming the functioning of Police

†2427. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Police is still working under the 1861 Act formulated by the Britishers;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that from time to time the Commissions have been set up for bringing reforms in functioning of Police;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a public interest litigation is pending in the Supreme Court for the implementation of recommendations made by "Dharam Vira Commission" Set up in this regard; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto alongwith details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The Police Act, 1861 is in operation in most of the States in the Country. Some States have revised their Police Act.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has set up one Police Commission namely the National Police Commission under the Chairmanship of Shri Dharam Vira in November, 1977. The Commission submitted eight reports during the period February, 1979 to May 1981 with a number of recommendations, which were primarily to be implemented by the State Governments. The Reports of the Commission were therefore sent to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for consideration and implementation. Subsequently, Padmanabhaiah Committee and Malimath Committee submitted their reports in 2000 & 2003 which touched upon various facets of Police functioning.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A public interest litigation filed by Shri Prakash Singh & Others is pending in the Supreme Court soliciting directions to the Central and State Governments with regard to implementation of various recommendations of the National Police Commission particularly in the matter of selection and fixity of tenure of Director General of Police, formation of State Security Commission, separation of investigative work from Law & Order functions etc. Central Government through its affidavit, brought to the notice of the Apex Court that implementation of most of these important recommendations concern the State Governments/Union Territory (UT) Administrations and that the State Governments/UT Administrations are being pursued regularly for implementation of these recommendations.